

Two-month municipal fees reduced for 151 Bahraini families

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Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Minister Essam bin Abdullah Khalaf yesterday issued an edict on reducing municipal fees for 151 Bahraini families living in rented houses for the months of April and May.

Khalaf said that the edict is in line with the directives of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to alleviate the burden on the citizens.

It is also within the framework of the Cabinet's decision to help the citizens who live in rentals and home owners.

The Minister said that the move is based on His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's constant keenness to provide the requirements of decent living for all citizens, through reduced municipal fees, exempting low-income citizens from paying fees in the future, or dropping their



Minister Khalaf

unpaid debts.

He pointed out that the Ministry seeks to harness all its potentials and resources to improve the standard of living of citizens and reduce municipal fees on them.

He indicated that there is ongoing coordination between the Municipalities Affairs Department and the Customer Service Directorate at the Electricity and Water Authority (EWA) to reduce municipal fees in electricity and water bills for those families.

Support for 'safe' world

Bahrain maintains tough stance against weapons of mass destruction

● Keen to boost cooperation with international community in achieving regional and global security and stability

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Bahrain is committed to boosting cooperation with the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in tackling the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

This was emphasised by Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs, Abdullah bin Faisal bin Jabur Al Doseri, as he met virtually yesterday with OPCW Director-General Fernando Arias.

During the meeting, Al Doseri praised the efforts exerted by Arias in promoting international cooperation and the organisation's prominent role in providing all means of support to all countries to achieve security and stability.

Al Doseri is also chairman of the National Committee on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapon and on their Destruction.



Al Doseri meets Arias remotely

“Bahrain’s policy is consistent in supporting efforts aimed at eliminating weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery and preventing their spread.”

- ABDULLAH BIN FAISAL BIN JABUR AL DOSERI

He noted that the world today is going through challenges and exceptional circumstances due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic but the Kingdom is

working harder to fulfill its obligations.

Al Doseri pointed out the committee's keenness to continue its work by holding virtual meetings, organising training programmes in cooperation with the organisation and working to implement the obligations contained in the agreement.

He also reviewed the efforts made by Bahrain since the signing of the agreement, noting that the national committee was established in Bahrain based on Law No. (51) of 2009, which was issued in implementation of the agreement ratified by the Kingdom in 1997.

He pointed out the amendment of legislation to keep pace with the requirements of

the agreement, stressing that Bahrain's policy is consistent in supporting efforts aimed at eliminating weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery and preventing their spread.

The OPCW Director-General expressed his pride and appreciation for the constructive relations of cooperation with Bahrain, and on the implementation of international agreements to achieve desired goals.

He lauded the efforts of Bahrain in implementing the agreement at the national level through the enactment of legislation and training of its national cadres in all fields and sectors.

Arias hailed the commitment of the Assistant Foreign Minister to follow up on the work of the National Committee.

He also expressed thanks and appreciation to Bahrain for the continuous support since the organisation's inception. Arias praised Bahrain's positive attitudes towards international and regional issues to ensure a world free of chemical weapons and weapons of mass destruction, wishing the kingdom further progress and prosperity.

The two sides also reviewed a number of issues of common interest during the meeting.

Bolstering Bahrain and Sri Lanka cooperation

● Al Zayani holds call with Regional Cooperation State Minister

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Industry, Commerce and Tourism Minister Zayed bin Rashid Al Zayani yesterday held a phone call with Sri Lankan State Minister of Regional Cooperation Tharaka Balasuriya as they discussed ways to bolster cooperation between the two countries.

Al Zayani highlighted Bahrain's distinguished economic capabilities, which entitled it to be a favourable destination for regional and international investors.

This is the fruitful outcome of the successful policies adopted by the government,



Minister Al Zayani

including easy procedures to boost the economic sector and attract more investments and value-added mega projects, he said.

They also discussed areas of joint cooperation in many sectors, particularly entrepreneurship and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

Topics related to the tourism sector and other issues of mutual interest were also discussed.

Foreign Minister meets Brazil's Ambassador-Designate



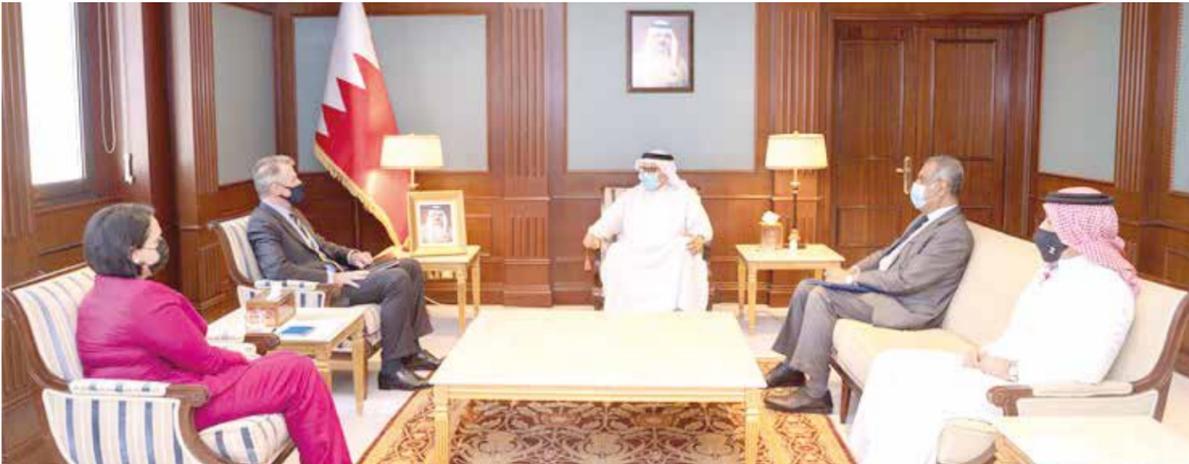
Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani yesterday met through video conference the Ambassador-Designate of Brazil to the Kingdom of Bahrain, residing in Kuwait, Francisco Holanda. The meeting was also attended by the Ministry's Undersecretary for Political Affairs, Dr Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, and the Head of the Americas Affairs Sector, Ambassador Shaikh Abdullah bin Ali Al Khalifa. The two sides expressed their pride in the course of the distinct friendly relations between Bahrain and Brazil, which are based on mutual respect. They also stressed the desire to consolidate bilateral cooperation relations and further develop them.

Foreign Ministry Undersecretary meets with Jordanian Ambassador



Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for Consular and Administrative Affairs, Ambassador Tawfeeq Ahmed Al Mansoor, met virtually yesterday with the Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the Kingdom of Bahrain, Rami Saleh Al Adwan, in the presence of Chief of the Arab Affairs Sector, Ahmed Mohammed Al Tarifi. During the meeting, they stressed the depth of strong fraternal relations between Bahrain and Jordan, in light of the constant keenness of the two countries on developing bilateral relations. They also reviewed a number of topics of common concern as well as ways to promote joint cooperation.

Foreign Minister receives IISS-Middle East Executive Director



Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani yesterday received in his office at the Ministry Executive Director of the International Institute for Strategic Studies in the Middle East (IISS-Middle East), Sir Tom Beckett. They discussed joint efforts of the Foreign Ministry and IISS-Middle East to organise the Manama Dialogue conference, which is hosted by the Kingdom of Bahrain every year, and the necessary preparations to hold it at the highest standards.

Interior Minister receives British Ambassador



Minister of Interior, General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, received yesterday British Ambassador to Bahrain Roderick Drummond. They reviewed bilateral relations and issues of common interest.